

and the amendments and remarks herein. During the interview, the Examiner indicated that the amendments to Claim 2 appear to overcome the previous rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Giraud. The Examiner further indicated that the amendments appear to be supported by the specification.

Claim 3 has been canceled without prejudice and Claim 2 has been amended. New Claims 16 to 18 have been added. Support for the amendments and addition to the claims can be found in the specification as filed. Specific support for these amended claims will be discussed further in the remarks below. Accordingly, no new matter has been added herewith.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 2-4 were rejected on the assertion that they were anticipated by Giraud. The claims have been amended to provide that the claimed apparatus comprises a region extending between the large base of said truncated cone and the end of the cylinder which is adjacent to the large base of the truncated cone, the region forming a retaining threshold resulting from a difference in diameter between the cylinder and the diameter of the large base of the truncated cone and creating a region of intimate contact of the waste with itself. As acknowledged by the Examiner in the telephonic interview of May 16, 2002 and the corresponding Interview Summary, the Giraud reference does not disclose an apparatus having the structure recited in the claims as amended herein.

As acknowledged by the Examiner in the telephonic interview of May 16, 2002 and in the corresponding Interview Summary, the claims as amended above are supported in the specification as filed. In particular, the amended claims are supported on page 3, lines 25 to 28 ("region"), page 3, lines 23 to 38 and page 4, lines 29 to 35 ("region"), and Figure 1. Figure 1 depicts the apparatus of the invention, to include a cylinder 9 and truncated cone 10. Between the cylinder 9 and truncated cone 10 is a region 11 connecting the end 12 of the cylinder 9 and the large base 13 of the truncated cone 10 which constitutes a retaining threshold 11 (see page 4, lines 29 to 33). Page 3, lines 34 and 35 recites that the retaining of the waste is "artificially created by the threshold" which is depicted in Figure 1 as the "region extending between said large base of said truncated cone and said end of cylinder" is represented as 11 (retaining threshold).

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102.

III. New Claims

Applicants have added new Claims 16 to 18. New Claims 16 and 18 recite that the region comprises "...a conical section positioned between said cylinder and said truncated cone." New Claim 17 recites an apparatus for the pyrolysis of waste comprised of "...a rotating cell formed of a cylinder, said cylinder having a diameter and two ends, in combination with a truncated cone rotating on the same axis, said truncated cone having a large base and a small base, said large base and said small base each having a diameter, the diameter of said cylinder being larger than the diameter of said large base of said truncated cone and a region extending between said large base of said truncated cone and said end of said cylinder...said region forming a retaining threshold resulting from a difference in diameter between said cylinder and the diameter of the large base of the truncated cone...waste is converted into coke which is used as fuel in the pyrolysis of the waste.". As acknowledged by the Examiner in the interview of May 16, 2002 and the corresponding Interview Summary, these claims are supported in the application as filed. In particular, these claims are supported at the locations discussed above with respect to Claims 2-4.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully asserts that the present application is fully in condition for allowance. If any issues remain that may be addressed by a phone conversation, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the phone number listed below.

The changes made to claims by the current amendment, including insertions and [deletions], are shown on an attached sheet entitled **VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**, which follows the signature page of this amendment.

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Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

2. **(Amended three times)** An apparatus for the pyrolysis of waste, comprising a rotating cell formed of a cylinder, said cylinder having a diameter and two ends, in combination with a truncated cone rotating on the same axis, said truncated cone having a large base and a small base, said large base and said small base each having a diameter, **[a hopper for charging the waste at one end of said cell, an ash box at the other end of said cell, a recovery chimney, in connection with said cell, for recovering pyrolysis gases from said cell, and a retaining threshold between the cylinder and the truncated cone,]** the diameter of said cylinder being larger than the diameter of said large base of said truncated cone and a region extending between said large base of said truncated cone and said end of said cylinder which is adjacent to said large base of said truncated cone, said region forming a retaining threshold resulting from a difference in diameter between said cylinder and the diameter of the large base of the truncated cone and creating a region of intimate contact of the waste with itself[,], whereby the waste is converted into coke which is used as fuel in the pyrolysis of the waste, a hopper for charging the waste at one end of said cell, an ash box at the other end of said cell, and a recovery chimney, in connection with said cell, for recovering pyrolysis gases from said cell.

New Claims 16 to 18 have been added.